

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces and supersedes all prior listings in the application.

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1-11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently amended): A cosmetic composition comprising a mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins produced by dehydrating polymerization at a temperature in the range of from 60 °C to 340 °C, in the presence of acidic alumino layer silicates, of at least one primary alcohol selected from the group consisting of

- a) unsaturated monofunctional alcohols;
- b) branched monofunctional alcohols; and
- c) difunctional alcohols,

wherein said mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins produced by dehydrating polymerization provides a cosmetic composition having storage-stability with respect to viscosity, as well as storage-stability with respect to separation, versus the analogous cosmetic composition comprising poly- $\alpha$ -olefins produced by homopolymerization of  $\alpha$ -olefins.

13. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the primary alcohol contains 6 to 72 carbon atoms.

14. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the group b) alcohol comprises at least one alcohol selected from the group consisting of branched alcohols having

- b1) at least one methyl branch in the alkyl chain,
- b2) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the alkyl chain and
- b3) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the  $\alpha$ -position to the terminal CH<sub>2</sub>OH group.

15. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein said group b) alcohol comprises a Guerbet alcohol.

16. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the group a) alcohol comprises a linear alcohol.

17. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

18. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the composition is a member selected from the group consisting of a w/o or o/w emulsion.

19. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, comprising 1 to 50% by weight of oil components.

20. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein said mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins comprises from 0.1% to 100% by weight of the total oil components of the composition.

21. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, further comprising 0.1% to 20% by weight of a surface-active substance or a mixture of surface-active substances.

22. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the group b) alcohol comprises at least one alcohol selected from the group consisting of branched alcohols having

b1) at least one methyl branch in the alkyl chain,

b2) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the alkyl chain and

b3) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the  $\alpha$ -position to the terminal CH<sub>2</sub>OH group.

23. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein b1) has from 1 to 6 methyl branches in the alkyl chain.

24. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the group a) alcohol comprises a linear alcohol.

25. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

26. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

27. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein said at least one primary alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and said mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

28. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the composition is a member selected from the group consisting of a w/o or o/w emulsion.

29. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition of claim 12 containing from 5% to 40% by weight of oil components.

30-32. (Canceled):

33. (Previously presented): The cosmetic composition of claim 12 wherein said mixture of poly- $\alpha$ -olefins has a high spreading value of  $>1000 \text{ mm}^2/10 \text{ min}$ .

34. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition of claim 12 wherein said at least one primary alcohol is selected from the group consisting of 2-ethylhexanol and isononanol.